

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EB-08 ISO-00 AGRE-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 AID-05 COME-00 FRB-01 TRSE-00
XMB-04 OPIC-06 CIEP-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /100 W
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R 251908Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5956
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME

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PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, GW
SUBJECT: BRUSSELS FARM PRICE PROPOSALS REJECTED BY
GOVERNMENT AND FARMERS.

1. THE BONN MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE STATED THAT THE EC
PRICE PROPOSALS ARE UNACCEPTABLE IN THE PRESENT FORM.
THE MINISTRY CALLS FOR "PRIORITY FOR PRICE STABILITY,
I.E., MODERATE PRICE INCREASES FOR SURPLUS PRODUCTS SUCH
AS MILK". IT IS HOWEVER, OPPOSED TO A "REDUCTION OF THE
MILK PRICE IN GERMANY AND AN INCREASE IN THE COUNTRIES
WITH GREATER INFLATION". THE MINISTRY EMPHASIZED THAT
PRICE STABILITY CANNOT BE ONLY AT THE EXPENSE OF AGRI-
CULTURE. IT WOULD BE UNIMAGINABLE NOT TO RAISE FARM
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PRICES IN GERMANY WHILE PRODUCTION COSTS ARE INCREASING
AND FARM INCOMES ARE EXPECTED TO FALL BY 6 PERCENT IN
1976/77. "WE CANNOT DRIVE PEOPLE OFF THE FARMS WHILE
THERE ARE MILLIONS OF UNEMPLOYED. THE RESULTS WOULD BE
EXACTLY THIS IF THE PRICE PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION
WOULD BE REALIZED."

2. THE GERMAN FARMERS UNION ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

A. THE COMMISSION PROPOSALS ARE AN IMPOSITION FOR GERMAN AGRICULTURE. THEY IGNORE THE EXPECTED STRONG FARM INCOME REDUCTION IN 1976/77 AND THE HIGH RISE IN INPUT PRICES. NOR DO THEY CONSIDER THE HIGH NEGOTIATED WAGE INCREASES IN COMPARABLE ECONOMIC SECTORS.

B. IN VIEW OF THESE FACTS, NO PRICE INCREASE FOR GERMAN FARMERS IS UNACCEPTABLE.

C. UNDER THE PRETENSE OF PRICE AND CONSUMER POLITICAL NECESSITIES, AGRICULTURE CANNOT BEAR SUCH SACRIFICES IN INCOME.

D. DURING THE PAST ONE AND A HALF YEARS, THE COMMISSION HAS POSTPONED DECISIONS ON ESTABLISHING EQUILIBRIUM ON THE MILK MARKET, THOUGH COPA AND THE GERMAN FARMERS UNION MADE USEFUL PROPOSALS. THE FARMERS UNION EXPECTS A DECISION ON MARKET BALANCE PRIOR TO A DECISION ON PRODUCER CONTRIBUTIONS.

E. THE GERMAN FARMERS UNION EXPECTS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS THAT THE PROPOSALS WILL BE CORRECTED; THAT A REDUCTION OF THE MILK PRICE WILL BE PREVENTED; AND THAT BY APPROPRIATE PRICE INCREASES THE FARMERS WILL BE GIVEN THE CHANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GENERAL GROWTH OF PROSPERITY.
STOESSEL.

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Message Attributes

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